



# AETC News Clips

## Keesler AFB, Miss.



News Clips are compiled for the AETC Commander and staff by AETC/PA. Copyright restrictions apply. **31 Mar 06**

---

**Sun Herald, 30 Mar 06**

### **Air Force cadets help 160 give up spring break**

**By MICHAEL NEWSOM**

**BILOXI** - They won't be on MTV this year. Cadets from the Air Force Academy are giving up spring break at the beach to work out of Yankee Stadium, building bunk houses for volunteers, renovating a gymnasium and fixing two homes.

Cadets from the academy in Colorado were finishing a coat of paint on the walls of the Dukate Elementary School gym Wednesday so residents can use it for pick-up games. They also built dormitory buildings for the scads of volunteers working out of Yankee Stadium.

The four dorms are about 20 feet long. The cadets also hung drywall and did trim work on two nearby homes.

Senior Cadet Andy Kmetz said the gym benefits locals.

"If you don't have a place for people to have fun, I am sure it is harder to motivate people to take care of some of the bigger problems," he said. The volunteers also worked on the floor of the Salvation Army dome on the stadium grounds.

The academy sent a total of 160 cadets to Gulf South. In addition to Biloxi, AFA cadets labor in Ocean Springs at a bird sanctuary and in Hattiesburg and Covington, La.

Kmetz and Cadet Steve King, also a senior, oversaw the work in Biloxi. King said the work has been good, but he knows it is only a drop in the bucket.

"It has been positive and negative," King said. "I think that it is really personal homes that are lost (that need more attention). You can set up things like this and take care of some things. But there are a lot of people that need places to live."

The Keesler Air Force Base command provided meals and some vehicles and let cadets use recreation facilities.

Also with the team is Lt. Col. Bob Leivers, a chaplain at the academy. Leivers specializes in character development. He has been here before; he worked in a support role during the search-and-rescue phase under the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

*The Sun Herald*  
**PAGE: Internet**  
**DATE: 31 Mar 06**



# AETC News Clips

## Sheppard AFB, Texas



News Clips are compiled for the AETC Commander and staff by AETC/PA. Copyright restrictions apply.

**31 Mar 06**

### ENJJPT sets sights on its future

By Michael Hines/Times Record News  
March 31, 2006, Page 1A

Smaller air forces across the world are prompting changes to a Sheppard Air Force Base program.

NATO leaders involved with the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Steering Committee met this week to discuss possible changes to the ENJJPT program. Details on those changes will be made public today. The effort represents a retooling for the future, said Lt. Col. Allan Jensen, senior national representative for Denmark.

"In general, we'd like to have more international participation," he said. "We're trying to make sure we strengthen the program as much as possible."

Some of the forces helping usher in any changes are coming from abroad.

According to the Sheppard Senator newspaper, smaller air forces among the partners in the ENJJPT program and tighter spending have pushed organizers to look at ways to increase involvement with the current 13 participating countries and newer alliance members. The proposal would create a more flexible training unit that would allow nations to complete part or all of their flying training requirements here.

What it means is preparing for the future, Jensen said.

"Everybody's extremely happy with the location" at SAFB, he said. "The community is extremely friendly. The importance of these meetings is to continue to make the program develop."

The committee also had a chance to meet members of a new NATO partner.

Officers with the Romanian Air Force observed the committee and also had a site visit to gather information about Sheppard as a possible place to train their pilots, according to the Sheppard Senator. Romania and six other countries became NATO partners March 29, 2004.

The ENJJPT program has been in place at SAFB since 1981 and trains undergraduate pilots from nine countries presently. Participating nations pay for the program on a prorated basis.

Medical/military reporter Michael Hines can be reached at 940-720-3456 or by e-mail at [HinesM\(at\)TimesRecordNews.com](mailto:HinesM@TimesRecordNews.com)

*Times Record News*

**PAGE: Internet**

**DATE: 31 Mar 06**



# AETC News Clips

## Vance AFB, Okla.



News Clips are compiled for the AETC Commander and staff by AETC/PA. Copyright restrictions apply. **31 Mar 06**

---

## Annual Washington meeting moving Vance past BRAC

CNHI News Service

- By Cindy Allen  
Managing Editor  
March 30, 2006

- 

Enid officials believe they've "turned the page" past the Base Realignment and Closure process after their visit to the Pentagon Tuesday.

The visit was part of the annual Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce legislative trip to Washington, D.C. Twenty-nine local representatives are in Washington conferring with government and military officials.

"What I continue to see here is that Enid is held in such high regard in the minds of these folks," said Mayor Ernie Currier. The mayor said Pentagon officials they met with noted Enid has been coming to Washington every year, not just when BRAC is an issue. He said Pentagon officials noted other military communities have not made the same effort. "We want that ongoing relationship," Currier said. "They are extremely appreciative of that endeavor."

Key items touched on during Tuesday's visit included meeting some new military and civilian officials involved in the expansion and enhancement of military efforts at Vance Air Force Base.

Mike Cooper, with Vance Development Authority, said the Enid contingent met with William Anderson, assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics; Lt. General Roger Brady, deputy chief of staff of the Air Force; and John Smith, deputy secretary of the Air Force for installations and engineering.

Anderson formally accepted the gift of 130 acres of land north of Eisenhower Elementary School the city of Enid has offered to the Air Force for Vance, which Cooper said is significant.

"What that means is we look to the future expansion and enhancement possibilities," Cooper said. "If the Air Force is taking property, they need excess capacity for future expansions, and that's a great thing."

Currier stressed Anderson also was appreciative of all the land the city of Enid has presented to Vance throughout the years. The mayor also said Brady, who trained at Vance, stressed training will not be cut over the next few years.

According to Cooper, Brady said the reduction of about 40,000 Air Force personnel will not really impact pilot training.

"That made me feel very good since we have a training base," Currier said. "We heard the things we wanted to hear, and we established that rapport a little deeper."

Other topics discussed with Pentagon personnel surrounded the addition of an \$8.7 million Armed Forces Reserve Center at Vance, the local base's road and gate projects

***Enid News & Eagle***

**PAGE:** Internet

**DATE 31 Mar 06**



# AETC News Clips

## Vance AFB, Okla.



News Clips are compiled for the AETC Commander and staff by AETC/PA. Copyright restrictions apply. **31 Mar 06**

---

and the move of the Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals program from Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, Ga., to Vance.

“We discussed the cooperation of the state and the community to build the south road,” Cooper said. “They brought us up to date on all of that, and all those are moving forward.”

The group is scheduled to meet today with congressional representatives regarding the \$15 million consolidated operations center for Vance.

“The key thing to this trip is that we are turning the page past BRAC,” Cooper said.

“We’re turning the page with everyone on the same page as far as infrastructure, quality of life, enhancement and expansion. Everyone is moving along on the same discussion.”